

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims

1-84 (Canceled).

85. (New) A method for remotely associating devices with user accounts comprising:

 automatically detecting a device at an installation;

 extracting information from the device;
 generating registration information based on the information;

 communicating the registration information to a remote site that does not have requisite registration information associated with the device using a communications network;

 registering the device with the remote site based on the registration information; and

 associating the device at the remote site with a user account based on the registration information.

86. (New) The method defined in claim 85, further comprising registering at the remote site a resource of the device.

87. (New) The method defined in claim 85, further comprising registering at the remote site a component of a resource of the device.

88. (New) The method defined in claim 85, further comprising registering at the remote site a virtual representation of the device.

89. (New) The method defined in claim 88, wherein the virtual representation of a component is used as one of an indicator or a means by which to effect a change in state of the device.

90. (New) The method defined in claim 88, wherein the virtual representation of a component is selected from a group consisting of toggle button, radio buttons, absolute slider, proportional slider, edit field, label, image, video clip, streaming video, audio clip, multiselect list, time field, date field, N-directional component, N-state button, N-state selector, tree, table, graph, chart, drawing pad, streaming audio, and banner.

91. (New) The method defined in claim 88, further comprising providing a user associated with the user account an opportunity to access the virtual representation of the device.

92. (New) The method defined in claim 85, wherein communicating registration information comprises generating a registration message using hypertext transfer protocol.

93. (New) The method defined in claim 85, further comprising creating the user account before associating the installation with the user account.

94. (New) The method defined in claim 85, further comprising communicating a confirmation message to the installation using the communications network.

95. (New) The method defined in claim 85, wherein the communications network is any one of the following: the Internet, an Intranet, a local area network, a wide area network, a telephone network, or a cable television network.

96. (New) The method defined in claim 85, wherein the device is any one of the following: a motion sensor, a video camera, a still camera, a contact sensor, a smoke sensor, or a light switch.

97. (New) The method defined in claim 85, wherein the device is a household appliance.

98. (New) The method defined in claim 85, wherein registering the device at the remote site comprises:

creating table entries in a database; and
storing the registration information in the appropriate table entries of the database.

99. (New) The method defined in claim 98, wherein creating table entries comprises calling at least one application program interface function at a web server to create table entries in a database at a database server.

100. (New) The method defined in claim 98, wherein storing registration information comprises calling at least one application program interface function at a web server to store registration information in corresponding table entries in a database at a database server.

101. (New) The method defined in claim 85, further comprising validating a registration message at the remote site.

102. (New) The method defined in claim 101, wherein validating the registration message comprises checking message validity.

103. (New) The method defined in claim 101, wherein validating the registration message comprises checking command validity.

104. (New) A system for remotely associating devices with user accounts comprising:

means for automatically detecting a device at an installation;

means for extracting information from the device;

means for generating registration information based on the information;

means for communicating the registration information to a remote site that does not have requisite registration information associated with the device using a communications network;

means for registering the device with the remote site based on the registration information; and

means for associating the device at the remote site with a user account based on the registration information.

105. (New) The system defined in claim 104, further comprising means for registering at the remote site a resource of the device.

106. (New) The system defined in claim 104, further comprising means for registering at the remote site a component of a resource of the device.

107. (New) The system defined in claim 104, further comprising means registering at the remote site a virtual representation of the device.

108. (New) The system defined in claim 107, wherein the virtual representation of a component is used as one of an indicator or a means by which to effect a change in state of the device.

109. (New) The system defined in claim 107, wherein the virtual representation of a component is selected from a group consisting of toggle button, radio buttons, absolute slider, proportional slider, edit field, label, image, video clip, streaming video, audio clip, multiselect list, time field, date field, N-directional component, N-state button, N-state selector, tree, table, graph, chart, drawing pad, streaming audio, and banner.

110. (New) The system defined in claim 107, further comprising means for providing a user associated with the user account an opportunity to access the virtual representation of the device.

111. (New) The system defined in claim 104, wherein means for communicating registration information comprises means for generating a registration message using hypertext transfer protocol.

112. (New) The system defined in claim 104, further comprising means for creating the user account before associating the installation with the user account.

113. (New) The system defined in claim 104, further comprising means for communicating a confirmation message to the installation using the communications network.

114. (New) The system defined in claim 104, wherein the communications network is any one of the following: the Internet, an Intranet, a local area network, a wide area network, a telephone network, or a cable television network.

115. (New) The system defined in claim 104, wherein the device is any one of the following: a motion sensor, a

video camera, a still camera, a contact sensor, a smoke sensor, or a light switch.

116. (New) The system defined in claim 104, wherein the device is a household appliance.

117. (New) The system defined in claim 104, wherein means for registering the device with the remote site comprises:

means for creating table entries in a database; and

means for storing the registration information in the appropriate table entries of the database.

118. (New) The system defined in claim 117, wherein means for creating table entries comprises means for calling at least one application program interface function at a web server to create table entries in a database at a database server.

119. (New) The system defined in claim 117, wherein means for storing registration information comprises means for calling at least one application program interface function at a web server to store registration information in corresponding table entries in a database at a database server.

120. (New) The system defined in claim 104, further comprising means for validating a registration message at the remote site.

121. (New) The system defined in claim 120, wherein means for validating the registration message comprises means for checking message validity.

122. (New) The system defined in claim 120, wherein means for validating the registration message comprises means for checking command validity.